**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH**
**ABSTRACT**

Public Services – PR&RD Department – Allegations of misappropriation of funds in DRDA/DDP, Ananthapur District – Imposition of a punishment of 25% cut in pension, permanently, in respect of Sri Sri N.V. Panduranga Rao, Executive Engineer (Retd), Ananthapur District under Rule of the AP Revised Pension Rules, 1980 – Orders – Issued.

**PANCHAYAT RAJ AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (VIG.II) DEPARTMENT**

**G.O.Rt.No.497** **Dated:23-09-2021.**
**Read the following:-**

1) G.O.Rt.No.351, PR&RD(RD-II)Dept.,Dt:22.03-2000.
2) Written Statement of Defence of Sri N.V. Panduranga Rao, EE (Retd) dt:15-5-2000.
3) G.O.Rt.No.626 PR & RD (Vig-II) Dept., Dt:25.03.2004
4) G.O.Rt.No.1529 PR & RD (Vig. II) Dept., Dt:06.11.2007
5) D.O.Letter No.26/COI-CK/2004, Dt:22.05.2009 of the Commissioner of Inquiries, AP Secretariat, Hyderabad.
6) Govt.Memo.No.176/Vig.II/A1/2001-54 PR&RD(Vig-II)Dept., Dt:18-12-2009.
7) Govt.Memo.No.176/Vig.II/A1/2001-62 PR&RD(Vig-II)Dept.Dt:22-1-2013.
8) From the ENC, PR, Hyderabad Lr.No.Vig-II(1)/13815/99, Dated:10-05-2013 & 03-07-2013.
9) Govt.Memo.No.176/Vig-II/A1/2001-65 PR&RD(Vig-II)Dept.Dt:17-8-2013.
10) From the ENC,PR, Vijayawada Lr.No.Vig.(4)/13815/99, Dated:18-07-2018.
11) Govt.Letter No.176/Vig.II/A1/2001-73 & 74 Dt:08.01.2021 & 30.06.2021
12) From the Secretary, APPSC, Vijayawada Lr.No.64/DC&C/2021, dt:17.08.2021.

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**ORDER:**

Based on the findings of the Vigilance & Enforcement Department in their Enquiry Report on the allegations of irregularities and misappropriation committed in utilization of DRDA/DDP funds in Ananthapur District during the year 1994-95 and 1996-97, disciplinary action was initiated against Sri N.V. Panduranga Rao, Executive Engineer (Retd), Panchayat Raj, Ananthapur District along with other officials vide reference 1st read above duly issuing the following Article of charges:-

**Charge-I:** Sri N.V. Panduranga Rao, EE., while functioning as Executive Engineer, District SC Service Cooperative Society Ltd., Anantapur has among with others had committed the following irregularities (a) Count-1: He had advanced huge amounts to Sectoral Officers which was spent on repairs and renovations of Project Director's chamber, his bunglow and for the purchase of electrical, hadware, sanitary equipment and furniture to a tune of Rs.24,82,357/- and debited the expenditure to the account of DPAP and EAS without administrative sanction by the competent authority or the approval of the Governing body (b) Count-2: He had issued a cheque of Rs.50,000/- to the EE, Dist. SC Service Cooperative Society Ltd., Anantapur for purchase of furniture for Collector's Office room without any sanction or authority (c) Count-3: He had allowed unauthorized expenditure of Rs.6,250/- on repairs to sofa sets and chairs at Collector's Camp. Office (d)Count-3: He had allowed authorized expenditure of Rs.11,000/- from EAS funds through Divisional Forest Officer, Penugonda to purchase sofa set under publicity materials for development for Conservator's Office, Anantapur.

(Contd....P-2)

**Charge-II:-** That during the aforesaid period and while functioning in the aforesaid office, the said Sri N.V. Pandu Ranga Rao, Executive Engineer, District SC Service Co.Op. Society Ltd., Ananthapur have indulged in wasteful expenditure in the construction of Home for Aged at Brahmanapalli village without proper planning and without ascertaining the clear title of the land.

2. The Charged Officer has submitted his written statement of defence in the reference 2nd read above, denying the charges and stated that he did not committed any irregularities in execution of the above work and only obeyed and followed the instructions of the higher officials.

3. After examining the written statement of defence of the Charged Officer, Government entrusted the case to Commissionerate of Inquiries, General Administration Department, for detailed inquiry in the reference 3rd read above.

4. In the reference 4th cited, Government have issued revised orders appointing Smt Chandana Khan, I.A.S., Commissioner, Commissionerate of Inquiries, General Administration Department, as Inquiry Officer, under Rule 20 (2) of Andhra Pradesh Civil Service (CC&A) Rules, 1991, to conduct departmental enquiry against Sri N.V. Panduranga Rao, EE (Retd) along with (6) others.

5. In the reference 5th read above, the Inquiry Officer has submitted her Inquiry Report. The Inquiry Officer in her report has found that the EAS being a very vast programme involving different levels of functionaries, there has to be a very well-orchestrated machinery to make the said programmes successful; that the District Collector, Project Director, other officers whose works were sanctioned, the Panchayat Raj Engineers who are responsible for implementation, the MPDOs, the Village Development Committees – all were responsible for effective implementation of the programme; that there has been lot of slackness in implementation and the implementing authority did not taken up frequent reviews, so that mid-term correction could have been made. There is nothing to dispute the technical facts in Vigilance report and that the Inquiry Officer has found that, the charge against Charged Officer-6 Sri N.V. Panduranga Rao, EE (Retd) is that he could not complete Home for the Aged, sanctioned by District Collector under EAS and that the site was also under dispute. So far as Charge Officer is concerned, the charge is also that he released money for repair etc., of the Chamber of the Project Director which is in violation of the EAS guidelines.

6. Government after taking into consideration the slackness of supervision and improper execution which led to huge wastage of Govt. money and the punishment imposed on the retired SEs., in this case, it is provisionally decided to impose the punishment of 25% cut in pension permanently on Sri N.V. Panduranga Rao, EE (Retd). Accordingly, in the reference 6th read above, the report of the Inquiry Officer was communicated to all Charged Officers including Sri N.V. Panduranga Rao, EE (Retd) with a request to submit their representation on the enquiry report. The Charged Officer Sri N.V. Panduranga Rao, EE (Retd), has not submitted any representation.

7. In the reference 7th read above, show cause notice was issued to Sri Sri N.V. Panduranga Rao, EE (Retd) along with other retired employees for submitting their explanation, if any, on the proposed punishment of 25% cut in Pension permanently proposing on them.

8. In the reference 8th read above, the Engineer-in-Chief (PR) has informed that in respect of Sri N.V. Panduranga Rao, EE (Retd), the postal authority have endorsed on the cover "Left without" and in spite of specific efforts again made by Superintending Engineer (PR), Anantahapur the above retired officer is not traced out.

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9. In the reference 9th read above, the Government have requested the Engineer-in-Chief (PR) to take necessary further action publishing the show cause notice in A.P. Gazette in respect of Sri N.V. Panduranga Rao, EE (Retd), under Rule 42 (iii) of APCS(CCA) Rules, 1991.

10. In the reference 10th read above, the Engineer-in-Chief, PR, Vijayawada has informed that, as per the instructions of the Government in the reference 9th read above, the show cause notice in respect of Sri N.V. Panduranga Rao, EE (Retd) have been published in A.P. Gazette on 16-07-2018 vide W.No.28.

11. Government after examining the matter, it is decided to confirm the provisional decision of imposing punishment of 25% cut in Pension permanently and sought the concurrence of APPSC on the said proposed punishment vide reference 11th read above. The APPSC vide reference 12th read above have concurred with the proposal of the Government.

12. Accordingly, Government, hereby order to impose a punishment of 25% cut in pension permanently under Rule 9 of AP Revised Pension Rules, 1980, against Sri N.V. Panduranga Rao, Executive Engineer (Retd), Panchayat Raj, Ananthapur District.

13. The Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj, Vijayawada shall take necessary further action in the matter accordingly.

14. The Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj Vijayawada is directed to publish this order in A.P. Gazette, as the Charged Officer address is not traced out by Postal Authority as well as Superintending Engineer (PR), Anantahapur and take necessary action in the matter accordingly.

**(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)**

**GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI,**
**PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.**

To
Sri N. V. Pandu Ranga Rao, Executive Engineer (Retd),
Panchayat Raj, Ananthapur (now retired) (Through Engineer-in-Chief,
Panchayat Raj, Vijayawada (with a request to publish this order in AP Gazette
and furnish the Gazette Notification copy)
The Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj, Vijayawada.
Copy to:
The Accountant General, AP, Amaravathi, Vijayawada.
The General Administration (V&E)D Department,
Vijayawada.(w.r.t.C.No.436/V&E/NR2/96, Dated 02.06.1998)
The Secretary, APVC, Secretariat Building-5, Velagapudi(1356/VC.G1/2003)
The Secretary, APPSC,
New Government Offices Building,
2nd Floor, MG, Road(Bandhar Road)
Opp:Indira Gandhi Municipal Complex, Vijayawada.
(w.r.t Lr No.64/DC&C/2021 dt:17.8.2021)
SF/SC

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER